

June 28, 2018

Margaret M. Fox

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Ms. Jocelyn Boyd  
Chief Clerk and Administrator  
South Carolina Public Service Commission  
Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building  
101 Executive Center Drive  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Rate Floor Certifications for 2018 Pursuant to Federal Communications  
Commission Regulation 47 C.F.R. §54.313(h)  
Docket No. 2013-268-C

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Federal Communications Regulation 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(h) requires certain incumbent local exchange carriers to report rate floor data by July 1 of each year. Specifically, the FCC regulation requires as follows:

- (h) *Additional voice rate data.* (1) All incumbent local exchange carrier recipients of high-cost support must report all of their rates for residential local service for all portions of their service area, as well as state fees as defined pursuant to § 54.318(e), to the extent the sum of those rates and fees are below the rate floor as defined in § 54.318, and the number of lines for each rate specified. Carriers shall report lines and rates in effect as of June 1.

The rate floor established pursuant to § 54.318 for the period beginning July 1, 2018 (rates in effect as of June 1, 2018) is \$25.50.<sup>1</sup> Thus, only incumbent local

<sup>1</sup> See Public Notice DA 17-1093 in WC Docket No. 10-90 (rel. Nov. 8, 2017); see also Report and Order, Declaratory Ruling, Order, Memorandum Opinion and Order, Seventh Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, *In the Matter of Connect America Fund, Universal Service Reform – Mobility Fund, ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, and Developing an Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, WC Docket No. 10-90, WT Docket No. 10-208, WC Docket No. 14-58, WC Docket No. 07-135, CC Docket No. 01-92, FCC 14-54 (rel. June 10, 2014), at ¶¶ 80 and 84 (The FCC waived the application of section 54.318(b) of its rules for lines reported July 1, 2017 with a rate of \$20 or above, but did not waive section 54.313(h) of the rules and, therefore, incumbent ETCs must report rates to the extent they fall below the announced urban rate floor of \$25.50); see also Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and

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exchange companies that receive high-cost support *and* have rates below the \$25.50 rate floor are required to file a report.

A copy of any required reports must be filed with the state commission. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(i). Attached please find the required information for the South Carolina Telephone Coalition companies listed in Attachment A.

The line count information reported by the companies is competitively sensitive information. Accordingly, a motion for confidential treatment accompanies this filing, and we are providing both public redacted and confidential versions of the filing.

If you should need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

McNAIR LAW FIRM, P.A.



Margaret M. Fox

MMF:khh

Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire, ORS  
Christopher Rozycki, ORS

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Order, *In the Matter of Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, FCC 17-61 (Rel. May 19, 2017) (The FCC froze the minimum rate ILECs are required to charge for local telephone services to avoid losing federal high cost support at \$18 while it considers changing the current methodology or eliminating the rate floor requirement and its accompanying reporting obligation).

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ATTACHMENT A

South Carolina Telephone Coalition Member Companies  
Rate Floor Certification 2018

Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc.  
Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
Hargray Telephone Company, Inc.  
Lockhart Telephone Company, d/b/a TruVista  
Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
PBT Telecom, d/b/a Comporium

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
Docket No. 2013-268-C

Re: Rate Floor Certifications for 2018 pursuant to Federal )  
Communications Commission Regulation 47 C.F.R. )  
§54.313(h) )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**MOTION REQUESTING THAT MATERIALS BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL**

The South Carolina Telephone Coalition (see attached list of companies) (“SCTC”) respectfully requests that the South Carolina Public Service Commission (“Commission”) treat the materials accompanying this motion as confidential. This motion is made on the following grounds:

1. Incumbent local exchange carrier Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (“ETCs”) who receive federal high cost support are required to report all of their rates for residential local service for all portions of their service area, as well as state fees as defined in rules promulgated by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”), to the extent the sum of those rates and fees are below the urban rate floor established by the FCC, and the number of lines for each rate specified. The rate floor that has been established by the FCC for purposes of this report for the July 1, 2018 filing is \$25.50.<sup>1</sup> The report is required to be filed with the FCC, the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”), and the relevant state commissions or Tribal governments, as appropriate. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(i).

<sup>1</sup> *See* Public Notice DA 17-1093 in WC Docket No. 10-90 (rel. Nov. 8, 2017).  
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2. The rate floor data report contains line count information for various rates. This information is confidential, proprietary, competitively-sensitive business information which, if disclosed, would cause competitive harm to the companies. Protection of such confidential and proprietary information is consistent with Commission precedent.

3. We ask that the materials described above be afforded confidential treatment by the Commission. In accordance with the Commission's guidelines, as set forth in Commission Order No. 2005-226, "Order Requiring Designation of Confidential Materials," the accompanying confidential materials are being filed in a separate envelope, which is clearly marked "Confidential." Each confidential page of the materials is clearly marked "Confidential." We are also providing a public redacted version of the filing.

WHEREFORE, the South Carolina Telephone Coalition respectfully requests that the Commission treat the accompanying materials as confidential, for the reasons stated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

McNair Law Firm, P.A.  
Post Office Box 11390  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 799-9800

By:



M. John Bowen, Jr.  
Margaret M. Fox

ATTORNEYS FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA  
TELEPHONE COALITION

Columbia, South Carolina  
June 28, 2018

ATTACHMENT A

South Carolina Telephone Coalition Member Companies  
Rate Floor Certification 2018

Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc.

Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Hargray Telephone Company, Inc.

Lockhart Telephone Company, d/b/a TruVista

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

PBT Telecom, d/b/a Comporium

Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc.  
Rate Floor Certification and Data  
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(h)

Rate Floor Template

**Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Rate Floor Data**

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the actual rate floor data reported ; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier				Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc.	
Signature of authorized officer				Date 06-12-2018	
Printed name of authorized officer				Andrew Rein	
Title or position of authorized officer				CFO	
Telephone number of authorized officer: (843) 686-1246 ext.					
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier		240512	Filing Due Date for this form (mm/dd/yyyy)	07/01/2018	



**Block 1 - Contact Information**

ROW #	DATA ELEMENT	FORMAT OF REQUESTED DATA	RESPONSE
1	Carrier Study Area Code	6 numeric digits	240512
2	Carrier Study Area Name	alpha characters	BLUFFTON TEL. CO., INC.
3	Service Provider Identification Number	9 numeric digits	143001510
4	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	mm/dd/yy	06/01/18
5	Contact Name	alpha characters	Zareva, Cissy
6	Contact Telephone Number (include area code)	9 numeric digits	843-686-1256
7	Sheet Number	numeric digit(s)	
8	Total Number of Sheets	numeric digit(s)	

**Block 2- Residential Local Service Rates, Fees, and Line Counts**

Column 1 Residential Local Service Charge	Column 2 State Subscriber Line Charge	Column 3 State Universal Service Fee	Column 4 Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Column 5 Loops	Column 6 Exchange Name/ Zone Name	Column 7 Class Of Service
21.45	0.00	0.51	3.00		Bluffton	Limited Local Service
9						

Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
Rate Floor Certification and Data  
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(h)

## Rate Floor Template

## Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Rate Floor Data

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the actual rate floor data reported ; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.			
Signature of authorized officer <i>JH Lawrimore</i>			Date June 12, 2018
Printed name of authorized officer Jeffrey L. Lawrimore			
Title or position of authorized officer Chief Financial Officer			
Telephone number of authorized officer: (843) 382-1381 ext.			
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier	240520	Filing Due Date for this form (mm/dd/yyyy)	07/01/2018

**Block 1 - Contact Information**

ROW #	DATA ELEMENT	FORMAT OF REQUESTED DATA	RESPONSE
1	Carrier Study Area Code	6 numeric digits	240520
2	Carrier Study Area Name	alpha characters	FARMERS TEL COOP., INC-SC
3	Service Provider Identification Number	9 numeric digits	143006909
4	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	mm/dd/yy	06/01/18
5	Contact Name	alpha characters	Moore, Sandra
6	Contact Telephone Number (include area code)	9 numeric digits	843-382-1313
7	Sheet Number	numeric digit(s)	
8	Total Number of Sheets	numeric digit(s)	

**Block 2- Residential Local Service Rates, Fees, and Line Counts**

Column 1 Residential Local Service Charge	Column 2 State Subscriber Line Charge	Column 3 State Universal Service Fee	Column 4 Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Column 5 Loops	Column 6 Exchange Name/ Zone Name	Column 7 Class Of Service
20.00		0.41			FTC/All Exchanges	Residential
20.00		0.41			FTC/All Exchanges	Residential Lifeline
10.00		0.21			FTC/All Exchanges	Residential Vacation

Hargray Telephone Company, Inc.  
Rate Floor Certification and Data  
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(h)

Rate Floor Template

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Rate Floor Data

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the actual rate floor data reported ; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier				Hargray Telephone Company, Inc.	
Signature of authorized officer				Date 06-12-2018	
Printed name of authorized officer				Andrew Rein	
Title or position of authorized officer				CFO	
Telephone number of authorized officer:				(843) 686-1246 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier		240523		Filing Due Date for this form (mm/dd/yyyy)	07/01/2018

**Block 1 - Contact Information**

ROW #	DATA ELEMENT	FORMAT OF REQUESTED DATA	RESPONSE
1	Carrier Study Area Code	6 numeric digits	240523
2	Carrier Study Area Name	alpha characters	HARGRAY TEL. CO., INC.
3	Service Provider Identification Number	9 numeric digits	143001516
4	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	mm/dd/yy	06/01/18
5	Contact Name	alpha characters	Zareva, Cissy
6	Contact Telephone Number (include area code)	9 numeric digits	843-686-1256
7	Sheet Number	numeric digit(s)	
8	Total Number of Sheets	numeric digit(s)	

**Block 2- Residential Local Service Rates, Fees, and Line Counts**

	Column 1 Residential Local Service Charge	Column 2 State Subscriber Line Charge	Column 3 State Universal Service Fee	Column 4 Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Column 5 Loops	Column 6 Exchange Name/ Zone Name	Column 7 Class Of Service
9	21.45	0.00	0.51	3.00		Hilton Head Island	Limited Local Service
10	21.45	0.00	0.51	3.00		Hardeeville	Limited Local Service

USAC Proprietary Confidential


Lockhart Telephone Company, d/b/a TruVista  
Rate Floor Certification and Data  
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(h)



Rate Floor Template

**Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Rate Floor Data**

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the actual rate floor data reported ; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier				LOCKHART TELEPHONE COMPANY	
Signature of authorized officer					
Date				6-12-18	
Printed name of authorized officer				DAVID H. BRUNT	
Title or position of authorized officer				EXECUTIVE VP ADMINISTRATION & CFO	
Telephone number of authorized officer:				(803) 581-9195 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier		240532		Filing Due Date for this form (mm/dd/yyyy)	
				07/01/2018	

**RATE FLOOR DATA COLLECTION - OMB Control Number 3060-0986**

**Block 1 - Contact Information**

ROW #	DATA ELEMENT	FORMAT OF REQUESTED DATA	RESPONSE
1	Carrier Study Area Code	6 numeric digits	240532
2	Carrier Study Area Name	alpha characters	LOCKHART TEL. CO., INC.
3	Service Provider Identification Number	9 numeric digits	143001522
4	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	mm/dd/yy	06/01/18
5	Contact Name	alpha characters	Ramey, Eric
6	Contact Telephone Number (include area code)	9 numeric digits	803-581-9152
7	Sheet Number	numeric digit(s)	
8	Total Number of Sheets	numeric digit(s)	

**Block 2- Residential Local Service Rates, Fees, and Line Counts**

Column 1 Residential Local Service Charge	Column 2 State Subscriber Line Charge	Column 3 State Universal Service Fee	Column 4 Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Column 5 Loops	Column 6 Exchange Name/ Zone Name	Column 7 Class Of Service
17.73		0.56			240532	Flat Rate

6-12-18

USAC Proprietary Confidential

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
Rate Floor Certification and Data  
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(h)

Rate Floor Template

**Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Rate Floor Data**

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the actual rate floor data reported ; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier					Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	
Signature of authorized officer				<i>Dewaine J. Wilson</i>		
Printed name of authorized officer				Dewaine J. Wilson		
Title or position of authorized officer				Chief Financial Officer		
Telephone number of authorized officer:				(843) 538-9090 ext.		
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier		240536		Filing Due Date for this form (mm/dd/yyyy)	07/01/2018	

**RATE FLOOR DATA COLLECTION - OMB Control Number 3060-0986**

**Block 1 - Contact Information**

ROW #	DATA ELEMENT	FORMAT OF REQUESTED DATA	RESPONSE
1	Carrier Study Area Code	6 numeric digits	240536
2	Carrier Study Area Name	alpha characters	PALMETTO RURAL TEL. COOP., INC.
3	Service Provider Identification Number	9 numeric digits	143001525
4	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	mm/dd/yy	06/01/18
5	Contact Name	alpha characters	Ancrum, Valerie
6	Contact Telephone Number (include area code)	9 numeric digits	843-538-9383
7	Sheet Number	numeric digit(s)	
8	Total Number of Sheets	numeric digit(s)	

**Block 2- Residential Local Service Rates, Fees, and Line Counts**

	Column 1 Residential Local Service Charge	Column 2 State Subscriber Line Charge	Column 3 State Universal Service Fee	Column 4 Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Column 5 Loops	Column 6 Exchange Name/ Zone Name	Column 7 Class Of Service
9	20.00		0.42			ALL	Residential
10	20.00		0.42			ALL	Residential - Lifeline

PBT Telecom, d/b/a Comporium  
Rate Floor Certification and Data  
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(h)

**Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Rate Floor Data**

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the actual rate floor data reported ; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier <b>PBT Telecom, Inc.</b>			
Signature of authorized officer <b>L.B. Spegrman</b>			Date <b>6/11/2018</b>
Printed name of authorized officer <b>L. B. Spegrman</b>			
Title or position of authorized officer <b>Vice President</b>			
Telephone number of authorized officer: <b>(801) 210-5529 ext.</b>			
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier	<b>240539</b>	Filing Due Date for this form (mm/dd/yyyy)	<b>07/01/2018</b>

## RATE FLOOR DATA COLLECTION - OMB Control Number 3060-0986

## Block 1 - Contact Information

ROW #	DATA ELEMENT	FORMAT OF REQUESTED DATA	RESPONSE
1	Carrier Study Area Code	6 numeric digits	240539
2	Carrier Study Area Name	alpha characters	PBT TELECOM, INC.
3	Service Provider Identification Number	9 numeric digits	143001527
4	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	mm/dd/yy	06/01/18
5	Contact Name	alpha characters	Spearman, L. B.
6	Contact Telephone Number (Include area code)	8 numeric digits	803-210-5528
7	Sheet Number	numeric digit(s)	
8	Total Number of Sheets	numeric digit(s)	

## Block 2- Residential Local Service Rates, Fees, and Line Counts

	Column 1 Residential Local Service Charge	Column 2 State Subscriber Line Charge	Column 3 State Universal Service Fee	Column 4 Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Column 5 Loops	Column 6 Exchange Name/ Zone Name	Column 7 Class Of Service
9	19.00	0.00	0.39	0.00		PBT Telecom	Residential

USAC Proprietary Confidential